

Message Text

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70

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

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INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCON, ELAB, EEC

SUBJ: SEMINAR ON INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS AND MULTINATIONAL CORPORATIONS

REF: STATE 47322

1. THE MISSION IS WELL ACQUAINTED WITH POTENTIAL UNION PARTICIPANTS MAIER AND KOPKE, AND SUGGESTED GOVERNMENT PARTICIPANTS SHANKS AND PEEL.

2. UNION PARTICIPANTS. MAIER AND KOPKE ARE BOTH EXCELLENT CHOICES, ALTHOUGH KOPKE'S EXPERIENCE WITH MNCS IS SOMEWHAT BROADER. AS GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE EUROPEAN METAL WORKERS FEDERATION (EMB) KOPKE HAS BEEN CHIEFLY RESPONSIBLE FOR EXPANDING CONTACTS BETWEEN THE EMF AND COMMUNITY MNCS, PARTICULARLY IN THE AUTOMOTIVE AND ELECTRICAL INDUSTRIES, WITH THE ULTIMATE GOAL OF ESTABLISHING EUROPEAN-WIDE BARGAINING.

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3. THE MISSION SUGGESTS THAT ICFTU GENERAL SECRETARY

OTTO KERSTEN AND THE GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE EUROPEAN ORGANIZATION OF THE WORLD CONFEDERATION OF LABOR, JEAN KULAKOWSKI, BE ADDED TO THE LIST OF POTENTIAL UNION PARTICIPANTS. BOTH HAVE HAD CONSIDERABLE EXPERIENCE IN THIS FIELD, ESPECIALLY IN TERMS OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE UNION POLICIES TOWARD THE MNCS.

4. GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES. SHANKS, EC COMMISSION DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS, IS AN OUTSTANDING INDIVIDUAL AND ONE OF THE CHIEF ARCHITECTS OF EC SOCIAL POLICY. HE WOULD BE AN APPROPRIATE EC REPRESENTATIVE AT THE SEMINAR. THE MISSION SUGGESTS THAT PEEL BE DROPPED FROM THE LIST. ALTHOUGH HE IS PRIMARILY CONCERNED WITH INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS IN THE COMMUNITY, HE IS NOT CONSIDERED AN EXPERT ON MNCS. A BETTER CANDIDATE WOULD BE HERMANN OLLENHAUER, WHO HEADS INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS AND LABOR LAW IN THE EC COMMISSION UNDER PEEL, AND WHO IS AN AUTHORITY ON THE INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS ASPECTS OF MNCS AND FOLLOWS THE SUBJECT CLOSELY. GREENWALD

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